

Redstone Rocket

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Engineer in battle of his life

*Lou Gehrig's disease
strikes unexpectedly*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Not long ago Darin Kruse would do six or seven triathlons a year. He'd bicycle three or four times a week for more than 100 miles total. He'd run 30 miles a week and swim 5,000 yards a week.

But that all changed. Kruse has a new quest now: trying to extend his life and raise awareness about the disease that will shorten it. Darin Kruse, an engineer in the Advanced Systems Directorate at the Research Development and Engineering Center, has Lou Gehrig's disease.

Also called Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, this is a fatal neuromuscular disease characterized by progressive muscle weakness resulting in paralysis.

Kruse greets a visitor at an entrance security desk and climbs the stairs to his office in building 5400. He walks slowly and is out of breath by the time he reaches his office.

"Well, just the normal things with the disease," he said of what he's coping with. "Just the gradual degradation that you get. ALS is a disease where your muscles gradually deteriorate till you're paralyzed. My hands and arms don't work very well anymore. I'm losing my balance. It's getting hard to talk. That sort of stuff."

He was diagnosed in April by Dr. Stanley Appel of Houston, professor and chairman of the department of neurology at Baylor and one of the leading ALS specialists in the country.

Kruse had noticed twitching in both biceps. It had probably been going on at least a year and a half but he ignored it. But about a year ago, he noticed weakness in both arms. That's when he decided to see a doctor. He first went to a Huntsville doctor who, probably because Kruse was in such good shape, mistakenly told him he didn't have ALS. "So it was a good Christmas present but it didn't last," he said. The doctor didn't know what was going on so he sent Kruse to Dr. Gwendolyn Claussen, associate professor of the department of neurology at UAB in Birmingham, who then referred Kruse to Appel.

Kruse was initially taking a drug called Rilutek, a Food and Drug Administration-approved drug which as a side effect can be harmful to the liver. When it started affecting Kruse's liver, Appel advised him to stop taking it and Kruse complied. Kruse has to take blood tests every 4-6 weeks to monitor his liver. Appel prescribed an experimental drug called Myotrophin, or



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ON THE JOB— Darin Kruse is trying to maintain his work schedule at the Research Development and Engineering Center.

insulin-like growth factor, which Kruse self-injects twice daily.

"But it's just an experimental drug so they don't really know if it works or not," Kruse said. "There's no cure (for ALS). The best they can do is try to slow it down, to extend your life span."

'It just totally changes your focus. I'm so concerned about my family. That's probably the biggest thing. And you focus on the short term instead of the long term.'

— Darin Kruse

He understandably doesn't like talking about his condition. He just wants people to be aware so they can maybe help support research into finding a cure through organizations such as the Muscular Dystrophy Association and ALS Association.

"It just totally changes your focus," the 39-year-old Ohio native said. "I'm so concerned about my family. That's probably the biggest thing. And you focus on the short term instead of the long term."

Fifty percent of ALS patients die within 18 months of diagnosis, according to a web site about the disease. Only 20 percent of patients survive five years. Only 10 percent live longer than 10 years. Ten percent of cases are hereditary, which is not the case with Kruse.

"It's rare but it does affect about 5,000 Americans each year," registered nurse Joan Estes of Huntsville Hospital said. "It's more common in men."

"The incidence of it increases with each decade, especially after the age 40," Lt. Col. Monica Gorbandt, the deputy commander for clinical services or chief of staff at Fox Army Health Center, said. "The peak in terms of diagnosis is like in the mid-70s in numbers of cases. The peak is at age 75 or so and then it sort of drops down. And about 5,000 cases are diagnosed in the U.S. each year."

Kruse and his wife, Rachel, an engineer in the Joint Common Missile Project Office, reside in southeast Huntsville with their two daughters, Monica, 13, and Michelle, 11.

"It's hard on my wife. I'm not able to do as much, help out around the house like I

See **Battle** on page 3

Letter to the Editor

9/11 Remembrance appreciated

We, the members of the Rocket City Chorus, wish to express our gratitude for the honor and privilege of being allowed to participate in your 9/11 Remembrance. Most of us in the chorus have a connection to the Redstone Arsenal community and our armed forces. We have served and continue to serve in many capacities.

It was wonderful to look into the faces of the audience and see the sincere tribute being paid to those that perished

on Sept. 11, 2001. Your support and dedication are acknowledged by our troops as evidenced when voices from Iraq, Afghanistan and other hot spots thanked you for your individual contributions in support of their efforts. We also recognize and thank you for your continued support and for taking time from your busy schedules to honor and render homage to our heroes.

John Gonzalez

An open lane random survey

Should the voting process be computerized?

By **KELLEY LANE**

Staff writer
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Ron Roesch
DoD civilian



"A computer election process is OK as long as it's backed up with a manual process in case there is a failure in the computer process."

EO-2 Todd Campbell
NMCB 24

"I don't believe it should be computerized because of all the computer problems that people run into. Hackers, and half the time you can't access your own e-mail. What kind of delay is there going to be during an election if a computer goes down?"



Alvin Hopkins
DoD civilian

"At the rate technology is advancing, yes."



Cpl. Cameron Young
2nd FSSG

"I think there is way too much room for tampering with the votes if it was computerized."

Timely advice for absentee voting

Absentee Voting Week is Oct. 11-15. For Alabama, the voted ballot must be postmarked by 5 p.m. Nov. 1 and received by the county absentee election manager by noon Nov. 2.

A vital part of the absentee voting process is voting and returning your ballot in time to be counted. In order to do this, citizens should carefully review all instructions for balloting provided by the state. In addition, to successfully vote and return a ballot, citizens must also comply with ballot return

deadlines and postmark requirements.

Correctly meeting all requirements and deadlines will help ensure your ballot arrives in time to be counted in the Nov. 2 general election.

When mailing your voted ballot, ask the mail clerk to hand stamp the ballot envelope so that a date is clearly visible. The dated postmark will help ensure that the local election official can make a proper determination of timely mailing.

Generally, if a state allows late counting

of ballots, the ballot envelope must have been postmarked on or before election day. In addition, citizens are asked to always vote and return their regular state absentee ballot up to and including election day.

Points of contact for the Installation Federal Voting Assistance Program are Joe Winston, senior federal voting assistance officer for the installation, and Lewis Spencer, alternate senior voting assistance officer for the installation). They can be reached at 842-2418 or 842-2411.

Getting to know you

By **KIM HENRY**

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Name: Laurie Sims

Job: Budget analyst, Logistics Support Activity

Where do you call home?

Madison Heights, Mich.

What do you like about your job?

I love my customers. I love supporting my customers and the Soldiers.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Visit friends.

What are your goals?

To achieve at life.



Local engineer dies in Iraq

Retired Lt. Col. William Earl Bowers of Madison, an engineer with SEI Group, was killed in Baghdad on Sept. 10. He was 46.

A memorial service was held Saturday on what would have been his 47th birthday. Burial was in Arlington National Cemetery. Laughlin Service Funeral Home handled the local arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn; their children, Brian and Jennifer; his parents, William Adam and Betty Marie

Bowers of Kathleen, Ga.; two brothers, Brian and Blaine; and two sisters, Bonnie Bourque and Beth Shepley.

Quote of the week

"The people who cast the votes don't decide an election, the people who count the votes do."

— Joseph Stalin

Letter policy

Letters to the editor must be signed by the writer. The *Rocket* will withhold names upon request. Letters can be sent via e-mail to skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil or faxed to 955-9138. The deadline for letters and all other submissions to the *Rocket* is noon Friday.

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Bomb school dedication lauded as history maker

Expanded facility represents FBI and Army partnership

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Redstone Arsenal is home for the latest tool in the war on terrorism.

The newly-expanded Hazardous Devices School, a partnership between the FBI and Army, was dedicated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 13. The school opened in 1971 to provide training for bomb technicians throughout the nation.

"If you want to be trained by the best in the world, you are standing in the place that makes that happen," Brig. Gen. Vincent Boles, commander of the Ordnance Center and School at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., said during the ceremony.

The school is funded and administered by the FBI and operated by the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School. It provides basic and recertification training for the approximately 2,500 public safety bomb technicians in the U.S. and certifies them to work as bomb technicians. It also provides specialty courses for bomb squad personnel, including a robotics course.

"This celebration is a history-making event," Col. Joyce Napier, OMEMS commander, said.

"I am very proud of this community and very proud of this day," Rep. Bud Cramer, D-Ala., said.

"This is a partnership between the Army and the FBI, and I'm glad that it's located in north Alabama," Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., said.

"This school is at the core of our terrorism response," Grant Ashley, executive assistant director, law enforcement services for the FBI in Washington, D.C., said.

This \$23 million project was funded by the FBI and managed by the Corps of Engineers, Mobile District. It includes three administrative and classroom buildings containing nearly 54,000 square feet, along with 14 practical exercise training villages. The new construction is situated



Photo by Skip Vaughn

MUSICAL NOTE— The New Jersey State Police Bagpipe Band performs during the dedication ceremony for the Hazardous Devices School.

■ Lou Gehrig's disease causes progressive muscle weakness

Battle

continued from page 1

used to," Kruse said. "She has to do a lot more than she used to.

"My wife has been wonderful. I don't know how she does it. She's been so supportive."

He's continuing to work 40 hours a week, just like he always has. He's trying to maintain his work schedule as best he can and says he's fortunate to have a job where he's able to do that. "A lot of people maybe wouldn't be able to do that because of the (line of) work," he said. "Work is good because it takes my mind off of the health problems."

A member of the post Army Ten-Miler team in 2000 and 2003, he can no longer swim or run but he goes for walks. And he still rides his bicycle, probably about 20 miles on a Saturday. "It's getting harder

because I'm losing my balance. I don't want to fall off my bike," he said.

The Pemberville, Ohio, native received a bachelor's in electrical engineering from the University of Toledo in 1988. He added a bachelor's in mechanical engineering from the University of Alabama-Huntsville in 1997. After graduating from Toledo, his first job was working at Honda in Marysville, Ohio. His government career began at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., in 1989-90 before he arrived at the Research Development and Engineering Center in 1991.

"Just try to fight this thing as best I can," he said of his plans. "Just taking it day to day, week by week, just fighting it as best I can. I hope they come up with a cure, or something to help me out."

His ordeal has taught him "probably not to take things for granted," he said. "You think things are going to last forever and maybe they're not."

off Redstone Road near the existing HDS range on 295 additional acres and occupies land which formerly housed the Redstone Arsenal post headquarters. The new training facility should enable the hazardous devices school to better meet the

needs of the 451 accredited public safety bomb squads in the U.S.

Since 1971 the school has trained about 16,000 bomb technicians. A typical student is a local public safety official such as a sheriff's deputy or police officer.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

Sept. 10: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol during an inspection at Gate 8. He was issued a violation notice and then detained at the Provost Marshal Office until his blood alcohol level reached a legal limit.

Sept. 11: An individual was observed in the Post Exchange selecting an item and then concealing it. He exited the Post Exchange without rendering payment. He was processed and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

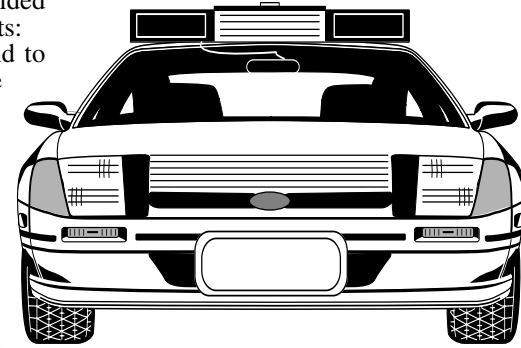
Sept. 13: An individual was detained after it was learned that he was wanted in Limestone County on an outstanding arrest warrant. He was transported to the Provost Marshal Office and then released to the Limestone County Sheriff's Department.

Sept. 15: An individual was observed exceeding the posted speed limit on Ride-out Road. When stopped, it was discovered that he was also operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. He was issued a violation notice for each offense and released.

Sept. 15: An individual was found to have a concealed weapon in his vehicle during an inspection at Gate 1. The weapon was retained and he was issued a violation notice and then released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Sept. 15: An individual reported to the Provost Marshal Office as being AWOL from his Fort Bragg, N.C., unit. He was processed and arrangements were made to return him to his unit.

Sept. 16: An individual was found to be in possession of a small amount of



marijuana during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Sept. 16: An individual was observed in the area of Gate 10 with a weapon. Officers from the Provost Marshal Office and the Huntsville Police Department found the subject, who was intoxicated near Gate 10 with a loaded assault rifle and several other weapons. The weapons were seized by the Huntsville Police Department. Investigation continues by the Huntsville Police Department and the Provost Marshal Office.

Sept. 16: An individual reported that she had been assaulted after a verbal altercation became physical. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Traffic accidents reported: 2 without injuries, 1 with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 14 speeding, 1 possession of a controlled substance, 1 no proof of liability insurance, 1 no driver's license, 1 expired driver's license, 2 failure to obey a traffic control device, 1 driving with a suspended/canceled driver's license and 1 driving while under the influence of alcohol.

Post pulling plug on car phones

Cell phone enforcement set to begin Sept. 30

By KIM HENRY
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Keep your eyes on the road and your hands on the wheel.

That is what Redstone hopes to accomplish by banning the use of most wireless communications while driving on the installation.

Col. Bob Devlin, Garrison commander, signed the new garrison policy that restricts the use of wireless communications. The policy went into effect June 21 and the enforcement will begin Sept. 30.

Specifically, most drivers on Redstone Arsenal will not be able to use cell phones, and handheld electronic devices such as a personal data assistants and global positioning systems while operating a moving vehicle. Use of hands-free devices will continue to be allowed.

The policy is a measure to continue safe driving on the installation.

"To date, we know of no vehicle accidents on post directly related to the use of cell phones or other wireless devices, and we intend to keep it that way," Devlin said.

If a driver is found operating a wireless communication device while driving, he or she could be issued a traffic citation and after a certain number of citations potentially lose driving privi-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

NO WAY— Most Redstone motorists are now prohibited from using cell phones while driving.

leges on post.

Gate guards will check for wireless use as individuals enter the installation and installation police will check for wireless use as well as seatbelts, proper insurance, sobriety and appropriate vehicle decals during routine checkpoints throughout the installation.

"The fact is that an individual cannot properly concentrate on the road if they are distracted by dialing a number, or scheduling an appointment," Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, said. "No phone call is so important that you should risk your life or the life of someone else."

Emergency responders, such as law enforcement and fire protection personnel and other specifically authorized individuals, will be able to continue using wireless devices.

Command triggers telework for workers' participation

Training deemed mandatory for supervisors, managers

By CHERYL WISE
AMCOM telework coordinator

Do you want to work at an alternate worksite? Telework is an opportunity for eligible AMCOM civilian employees to perform their officially assigned duties at alternate worksites during a work week, under arrangements agreed to in advance by the supervisor and the employee.

Telework is also known as flexiplace or telecommuting.

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, signed the policy Aug. 5 to launch teleworking arrangements for eligible civilian employees' participation. Teleworking arrangements must comply with the Department of Defense Telework Policy and Guide and associated Department of Army and Army Materiel Command guidance.

To be eligible for telework, civilian employees must meet several requirements, to include having work activities

that are portable, demonstrating personal characteristics that are well suited to telework, and having a minimum performance rating of fully successful or equivalent.

Prior to participation in a telework arrangement, the employee and his or her supervisor must complete a command sponsored classroom orientation on the telework program. All AMCOM supervisors and managers are required to attend the orientation. Interested AMCOM employees are invited to attend the training. To learn more about telework, go to the AMCOM Intranet under the subject index "T."

Orientation sessions will provide information on the background, details and requirements of the program. Each session is a four-hour block of instruction that will begin at 8:30 a.m. and last until 12:30 p.m. The sessions, which began Sept. 21, are held in a classroom in building 5304.

Please note that you must register through the Training Information Program in order to attend and receive credit for this class.



Photo by Jack Hoffman

CLASSROOM— ASI trainers Nancy Hodges and Brenda Knox, standing from left, and telework subject matter experts put finishing touches on training.

Wall of heroes to honor those in hostile areas

Photo display planned at Sparkman Center

By KRISTI FOSTER
For the Rocket

Since the early 1900s Redstone has maintained a tradition of men and women who have set themselves apart with their willingness to serve and sacrifice. Today, that tradition continues.

Plans are under way to honor Redstone's heroes. To make this happen we're asking for your help in identifying them. If you know of Team Redstone employees, military and civilian, or their family members, who are serving our country in hostile areas of the world please submit their name, Team Redstone organization

or unit, and where they are serving, along with a photograph (5-by-7 preferred) to the Public Affairs Office, AMSAM-PA, Attn: Kristi Foster, Building 5300, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

Provide your contact information with your submission including a return address if you would like to have your photograph returned. Photographs can also be e-mailed to: kristi.foster@redstone.army.mil.

The display will be located in the Sparkman Center, first floor, building 5300. The display titled, "A Tradition of Heroes," will stand as a reminder to us that the everyday freedom that we enjoy was not won, and is not maintained, without service and sacrifice.

For more information, call Foster at 876-4161.

Aloha from THAAD test facilities

BARKING SANDS, KAUAI, Hawaii — Test facilities for the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system were officially opened during a ribbon cutting ceremony Sept. 15 at the Pacific Missile Range Facility.

The event marks another milestone in the THAAD path to deployment as part of the Missile Defense Agency's Ballistic Missile Defense System. The BMDS is envisioned as a layered defense in which THAAD would provide defense against ballistic missiles in the terminal, or final, phase of their trajectories.

Work on the THAAD PMRF Facility

began in 2003 and was part of a \$23.4 million military construction project. It was built by Bodell Construction of Salt Lake City and includes launcher and radar hardstands and a blockhouse and support facilities.

Preparations are under way to begin THAAD testing at PMRF in 2006. The first flight tests in the current test phase will be performed at Whites Sands Missile Range, N.M., but will be shifted to PMRF as testing requirements call for more robust objectives that cannot be accommodated at White Sands because of geographical constraints.

Helicopter society gives update

The Redstone Chapter of the American Helicopter Society hosted Aviation Applied Technology Directorate and AeroFlight Dynamics Directorate in a technical/training session Aug. 12.

Guest speakers included Col. William Gavora, AATD technology programs overview; Wayne Mantay, aeromechanics/rotors technology; Keith Arthur, airborne manned/unmanned system technology; and Jon Schuck, survivable, affordable, repairable, airframe program technology.

This session, attended by more than

100 government personnel and support contractors, was held in support of continuing training goals of the Army to present immerging technologies in a technical forum. The Redstone Chapter of AHS plans to provide additional sessions during the upcoming year.

The chapter will have a membership appreciation barbecue Thursday from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Rustic Lodge. Admission is free to Redstone Chapter members and those joining that day. Non-members and guests pay \$10. For more information, call Tim Kraatz at 726-3684.

Strike kills 60 terrorists near Fallujah

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A precision strike on a compound near Fallujah has killed approximately 60 terrorists, Multinational Force Iraq officials said Thursday.

The strike destroyed three buildings in which members of Abu Musab Zarqawi terrorist group were meeting. The strike hit the compound near the village of Qaryat ar Rufish. The village is southeast of Fallujah and southwest of Baghdad, officials in Baghdad said. According to a

release, sources said about 90 foreign fighters were meeting when the strike hit.

Those who escaped the initial strike escaped to a nearby village. Multinational forces discontinued the engagement when there was a danger of killing civilians.

The multinational force also took out a terrorist target in Fallujah earlier in the day. Officials said the air strike destroyed a home used by the Zarqawi network to store ammunition and to plan attacks against Iraqi civilians, Iraqi security forces and multinational forces.

The road less traveled for good reason

*Police officers recall
bizarre experiences*

By KIM HENRY
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Buxton Road on the southeast portion of the Arsenal is a desolate area. There is field and trees as far as the eye can see. No real indication that the area was a booming place of industry and community.

In 1942, a housing project was started outside of Gate 2 to provide homes for the influx of employees working at the Redstone ordnance plant during World War II. "In May 1942, the War Housing authority contracted for 300 family units to be constructed on 65 acres at Farley, two miles from the south entrance to the Arsenal," stated a Redstone Rocket article from 1969. "By March 1943, the workers were moving into their new quarters and Red-

stone Park was born."

Redstone Park's rental prices were listed in a 1943 edition of The Huntsville Times. "Units with one bedroom will rent \$22.50 per month, two bedroom units for \$25 per month and three bedroom units for \$25.15 a month." Residents were only allowed to rent a house that suited their family size; no guest bedrooms were allowed.

Because of the wartime conditions, the houses were equipped with oil and kerosene to fuel appliances. Only the lighting was electrical. Transportation was even provided by railway, since there was a shortage of automobiles and gasoline.

"Known as the 'Redstone Express' an engine and three railway cars carried

Eight eerie weeks of fall Ghost story series, Part 3



Historical photo

DISAPPEARING ACT— Redstone Park housing units vanished just as quickly as they appeared.

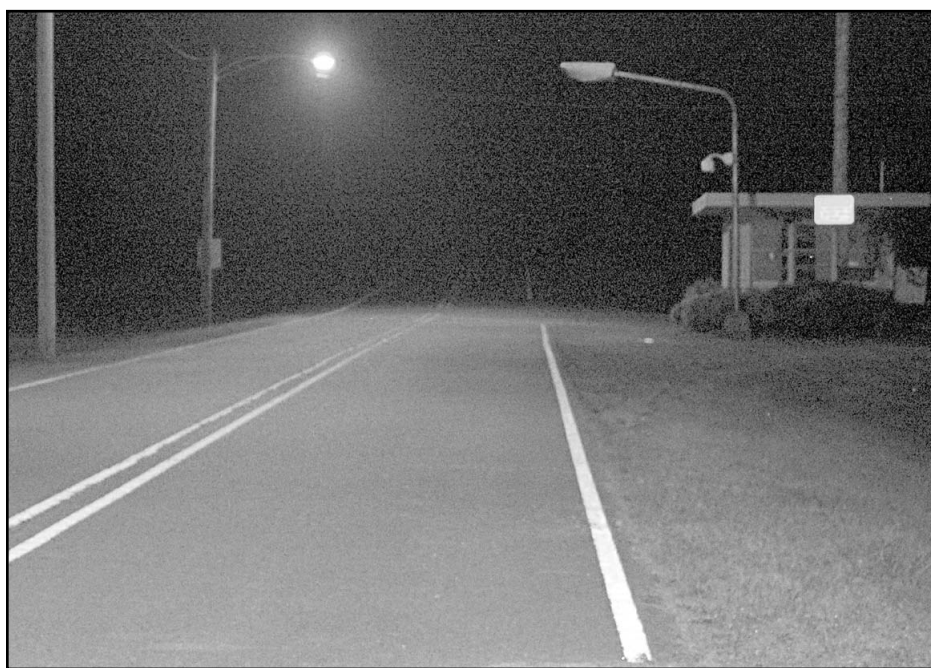


Photo by Kim Henry

CREEPY CROSSING— Some unexplained events have been experienced at Gate 2 on Buxton Road late at night.

workers from Redstone Park to the ammunition lines on the Arsenal and back home again," the 1969 Redstone Rocket article said.

After World War II, the housing saw one more surge of residents with the ammunition buildup for the Korean War. In 1956, the housing was renovated and used as military housing.

But just as quickly as Redstone Park was born, it disappeared one house at a time, literally. New housing on post began to take residents away from the older units and a storm in 1966 sealed Redstone Park's fate. "The storm tore off shingles and wrecked roofs and, if this wasn't enough, pipes and plumbing froze and burst." Soon the housing units were being sold one-by-one and moved to new locations across Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi and Georgia.

In the winter, remnants of what was once Redstone Park appear to be a skeleton of the past. Though the housing and railroads may be long gone, the spirits of those who once inhabited the area may still linger.

Several years ago, a Department of Army police officer was talking with two Huntsville police officers on the other side of Gate 2.

As they were talking one of the Huntsville officers noticed something. "He looked over my shoulder like he saw something," the DA officer said. "So I looked back and saw a little girl" The DA officer said no one should have been there at that time of night; it was around 2 or 3 a.m.

"If you know this area, it is in the middle of no where," the DA officer said. "It is not a residential area nor is it well traveled."

The DA officer said the girl was walking across the road, but as soon as

they all saw her she disappeared. He let the two Huntsville officers in the gate and they walked down to where they had seen her.

"There was dew on the grass that night, but there were no footprints," he said. "There was nothing anywhere."

According to a Rocket article in 2001, a former Redstone police officer saw and heard some strange things around the area as well.

"One night I pulled in to use the portapotty located at Gate 2," she said. While in the portable restroom she said she suddenly heard police sirens sound. "Every time we get out of our cars, we have to lock the doors," she said. "So I thought another officer had pulled up and turned on the siren to get my attention. I remember thinking, 'Can't they hold on a minute until I'm done?'" When she reached for the door to exit, suddenly the sirens stopped.

"I came out and there was nobody there," she said. "There wasn't another police car, and you can see for miles out there." And the doors were still locked.

On another occasion, the officer experienced an unexplained event. "I was inside the guard shack," she said "The blue lights on my vehicle suddenly came on." Like before, the car was locked. "The lights stopped just as mysteriously as they started." After her experiences, the officer said she no longer liked to work out there if she could help it.

Gate 2 at Buxton Road has since been closed. The road is even less traveled by employees than before. The area may not be deserted; those from years past may still be in search of their home or just looking to play a few pranks.

Auburn man still learning as general's deputy

*Longtime engineer
moves to new job*

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
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Redstone has a way of holding on to people. They come to the installation and are charmed by the area and the post. Often, they decide to stay here. Sometimes, however, they start their careers here and simply never leave. Such is the case with Dr. Richard Amos, named acting deputy to the commanding general July 6. September sees him making the transition to permanent status.

He is a Huntsville native who is happy to still call Redstone home after all these years.

"Local boy makes good," Amos quipped.

Amos grew up in the Huntsville community before heading off to Auburn University to earn a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering. With that under his belt, he came home to begin his career at

Redstone in December 1982, as an engineering intern with the production engineering division of the Research Development and Engineering Center.

With the bulk of his career spent in the RDEC, Amos comes to his current position from his most recent as director of systems simulation and development, where he spent the last four years. Prior to that he was deputy director in the engineering directorate. He credits his climb from the intern program to his current heights to the mentors and influences who have impacted his life and career at Redstone.

"I have been very blessed in my career to have been around truly great leaders here at Redstone. I had great mentors, Larry Daniel and Dr. Bill McCorkle, who really helped me get started in my career. I was fortunate to be able to work with two of my predecessors in this job very closely, Ernie Young and Jim Flinn," Amos said. "During my career I just happened in my job assignments to have the opportunity to work with those two and to be around them and see how they conducted themselves in this job. Wow, what a legacy to try to live up to with those two guys."



Photo by Kelley Lane

DAILY AGENDA— Dr. Richard Amos goes over his schedule for the day with executive officer Marsha Skelton, seated, and secretary June Pockrus.

Even with the impressions left on him from previous officeholders, Amos has definite ideas of his own about his job.

"I see that the role that I have here is to remove roadblocks. I see myself as a facilitator. The CG sets the direction for the command and it's my job to help implement that. The best way that I can do that is to remove whatever stands in the way of the path that we're on, whether it's funding, a personnel issue, a resourcing issue or changing the organization to go in the direction the Army needs us to go in," he said. "My job is to keep us moving at the best possible speed down the right path and that means blowing holes through whatever roadblocks exist."

In 1983, the year after joining the ranks of Redstone, he married his high school sweetheart, Joyce Bowling. The couple celebrated their 21st anniversary at the beginning of this year. They have two daughters, Christy and Katie. Christy is following in her father's footsteps as a freshman in Auburn's engineering program. Katie is a sophomore at Grissom High, her parents' alma mater. Wife, Joyce, is a business and computer teacher at Grissom. A family oriented man, Amos has dedicated his free time to his daughters, though the activities have changed slightly over time.

"Most of my fun has been devoted to doing things with my kids, coaching their basketball teams and softball teams," Amos said. "Both of them are to the age now where they are involved with organized school activities and Dad doesn't coach anymore. I still spend my free time going to their ballgames and band concerts, just watching these days."

Since he has been relegated to the sidelines, Amos has found new activities to share with his family.

"I skeet shoot. I'm not very good at it, just having taken it up," he said, laughing. "I enjoy it. It's a lot of fun and my girls do it with me. I look for family activities."

While a member of Team Redstone, Amos has also found time to further his education, going on to earn a master's degree in engineering management and

then his doctorate in systems engineering, both from the University of Alabama-Huntsville. He remains active on advisory committees in the engineering departments of several local universities.

Amos is excited about the opportunities his new position offers and sees it as a way to see another side of the installation that has held his attention for so long.

"I'm honored that the CG had faith and confidence in me and picked me for the job. I'm excited about the opportunity," he said. "I have a lot to learn. I've been here for 22 years, but really in a different part of the business. I understand some of what these organizations do, but not as much as I need to. I have an awful lot to learn."



Photo by Ryan McGill

Alert guard

Sgt. Arthur Watts noticed three individuals were in front of a restricted area, building 5400, near the static displays taking photographs Sept. 1. He noticed they did not have on security badges and upon asking for identification was presented with two Ukrainian passports and one NASA security badge. Watts verified photography was not authorized in the area, confiscated the film and escorted the parties to the MP station. He is being recognized by Dr. Bill McCorkle, director of the Research Development and Engineering Center, for his keen security awareness.

New director focuses on people, customers

Former lieutenant colonel takes reins at Intelligence and Security Directorate

By LIRA FRYE
For the Rocket

From the outside, the intelligence world can seem secretive and uncommunicative, but Keith Ryan hopes to change that perspective. Ryan was named director of the Intelligence and Security Directorate in September but has been acting in the position since June 2003.

A seemingly forthright and jovial man, Ryan said he enjoys dealing with people. "That's my strong suit," he said. "I follow the Golden Rule, and it's worked well for me. It's important to care about people and their concerns, to talk with people and to understand them."

The care he shows for his employees also shines through in his passion for one of his missions, protecting the "crown jewels" of the Aviation and Missile Com-

mand – the sensitive programs in the research and development arena. The Intelligence and Security Directorate helps to identify threats to the acquisition community and to train people to protect the sensitive programs, according to Ryan. The organization also looks at foreign systems that might impact the current fielded systems and coordinates with researchers in developing countermeasures.

"I've been doing this all my life," he said. "This job was a natural fit for me. I'm going back to doing what I like to do – supporting the commander and the warfighter."

The warfighter Ryan's organization supports lives close to his heart. "I have a son and a son-in-law in the Army," he said. "That really brings my responsibilities home."

Those responsibilities are similar to ones Ryan held during his 20-year career as a Soldier. His assignments ranged from platoon leader, 172nd Light Infantry Brigade Interrogation Platoon to assistant

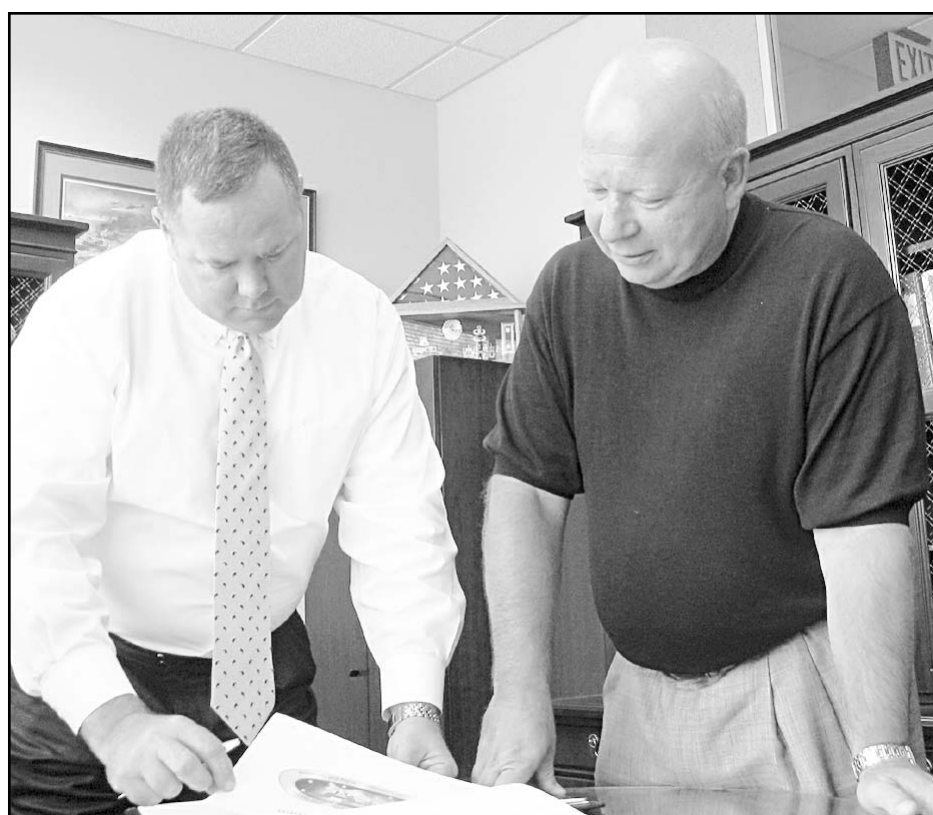


Photo by Lira Frye

MAKING PLANS— Intelligence and Security director Keith Ryan, left, works closely with his deputy, Monty Hill. Ryan was named director in September, although he'd been acting director since June 2003.

deputy chief of staff for intelligence, Space and Missile Defense Command. He retired in June 2001 as a lieutenant colonel.

Although he's from a large working class city north of Boston, Ryan says he's adapted well to the Southern lifestyle. "I'd never even heard of Huntsville before I started looking at jobs in this area," he said. "When I started making phone calls, everyone I spoke with said this was a great place to live."

Ryan said his goal now is to look out for the best interest of the directorate so the directorate can better support its customers. He plans to do that using philosophies he learned from two influential people in his life.

"I had a boss who taught me to sit back and reflect – to look at the big picture," he said. "I took that to heart. I had another boss who was a real people person. He had strong values and really cared about people. I couldn't help but learn and be impacted by that."



Photo by Mindy Shelton

Exercise resource

Lyle Douglas, an exercise physiologist with Huntsville Hospital Wellness and Sports Center, spoke at the August meeting of the American Society of Military Comptrollers, Huntsville/Redstone Chapter. He receives a certificate from chapter president Debra Kelley.

International military student graduates with honors

Filipino returns to native land

Philippine air force Staff Sgt. Jonathan Reynaldo probably won't forget the time he spent at Redstone.

And it's not just because he was a distinguished graduate of the 55B Ammunition Specialist Course from June 14 through Sept. 13.

He will also remember the fun times.

"I went on several trips and attended several picnics with the other international students and the International Military Student Office," he said. "I tried to see as much of the U.S. as I could. Went to the mall, different places to eat and shop."

Reynaldo, 33, a married father of two, said he had a "cool" time at Redstone. "Great place to stay. It is a very clean and quiet base."

What did he learn about America? "I learned that there is much technology in this country. People are very friendly and courteous," Reynaldo said. "It is a super power. High tech, great and rich country. The armed forces are well equipped and the Soldiers



Courtesy photo

HOT-LANTA— Staff Sgt. Jonathan Reynaldo of the Philippines looks at the Philippine related display at World of Coke in Atlanta. The International Military Student Office took a group of international student soldiers on an informational program tour to Atlanta July 24-25.

are well trained."

What was the most memorable thing about his stay? "Everything was memorable but the most memorable was when I visited Underground Atlanta in downtown Atlanta," he said. "There were so many people looking and walking around. They were very

busy shopping and it was a nice place to take a stroll."

The staff members of the International Military Student Office are "very supportive and friendly," according to Reynaldo.

"I will pass on everything that I learned (in the training) to the soldiers in my country," he said.



Courtesy photo

Music city visit

The International Military Student Office took five international soldiers, three family members and one civilian from Japan who is attending training at the Army Logistics Management College, to Lynchburg, Tenn., and Nashville on Sept. 11. Soldiers were from Jordan, Egypt, Hungary and Korea. Standing inside the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville are, from left, Staff Sgt. Tamas Urban of Hungary, Capt. Mohammed Hussein of Egypt, Maj. Hassan Hajjaj of Jordan, Noriya Sako of Japan and Maj. Tamer El-Shamy of Egypt.

Post Exchange vendor gets wish with hug from singing star

Not quite classical and not quite pop, singing sensation Josh Groban is certainly a star on the rise. Following that rise from the beginning has been Nese Bennett, a Post Exchange vendor and self-proclaimed "Grobanite."

Bennett was surprised by a tele-

phone call from Groban's record company that informed her she had won two backstage passes for the Indianapolis concert on Aug. 11.

"We had already planned to visit family and go to the Indianapolis show but getting to meet Josh was really over the top," she said.

Due to the star's age of only 23 years but with a style that can be described as modern classical, his fans range from teenagers to senior citizens. Groban's self-titled debut album has topped 10 million sold while his second album, "Closer," is selling briskly as well. At the 1999 Grammy Awards, then 17-year-old Groban was called in at the last minute to replace Andrea Bocelli to sing "The Prayer" with Celine Dion. From there, his career has skyrocketed to include appearances on Oprah, The Rosie O'Donnell Show, The Today Show, The Tonight Show and many others. He was also featured on two episodes of "Ally McBeal" which were written especially to feature the singer.

A few days before the concert, Bennett entered a contest that asked, "Why I Want to Meet Josh Groban." She wrote a short but heartfelt e-mail describing herself as one not usually

given to public displays of affection and certainly not the type to be a groupie. Born in Turkey, she was raised on "Beethoven in the Park" in the city where she was raised and, as a mother of two, she is normally subdued when it comes to music. "But Josh can really touch your heart," she said. She was one of two winners for the Indianapolis venue.

Backstage, she got to meet Groban who chatted with her and signed her program and a CD. Bennett gave Groban a business card with a picture of the Von Braun Center, the VBC's capacities (10,000 arena and 2,100 concert hall), and a border that read, "Josh, Please Come and Sing in Huntsville, Ala."

When the other winner, a young lady named Kilie, asked Groban for a hug, he said, "Sure, hugs all around!" As Bennett was getting her hug, her husband Chief Warrant Officer Max Bennett laughed and said, "Josh, I'm good!" meaning he wouldn't need a hug.

The Bennetts, along with four of their friends, enjoyed the rest of the cool Indiana evening as Nese basked in the warmth of her good fortune ... and her hug.



Courtesy photo

BACKSTAGE— Nese Bennett, right, meets singer Josh Groban in Indianapolis.



Photo by Jan Smith

Boo!

The Huntsville Botanical Garden sponsors an annual fall Scarecrow Trail in which organizations are invited to build a scarecrow and compete for a \$100 prize. American Society of Military Comptrollers members Carol Knox and Jackie Shaw constructed a scarecrow titled "Protector of the Enchanted Forest."

Federal employees can make difference

**CFC kickoff
set Sept. 29**

By **KIM HENRY**
Staff writer
kimberly.henry2@redstone.army.mil

When Darrian Fuqua was 6, he was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Doctors told his mother, Pamela Fuqua, a management assistant at the Corps of Engineers, that he probably wouldn't live beyond 21.

Thanks to the help of organizations like the Muscular Dystrophy Agency and the Canine Assistants, Darrian's quality of life has improved and he is a senior at Lee High.

"Despite constant pain, Darrian is determined to not let anything stop him from graduating in May 2005," Fuqua said. "He is my hero in life."

MDA and the Canine Assistants are among agencies that federal employees can contribute to during the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign, Oct. 4 through Nov. 12.

MDA assists individuals like Darrian with purchase of wheelchairs, leg braces,

walkers, flu shots and clinic visits. It also helps fund trips to Camp ASCCA, which stands for Alabama's Special Camp for Children and Adults. Fuqua said Camp ASCCA is something Darrian looks forward to every year and the contributions to MDA help make that possible.



Courtesy photo

BEST FRIENDS— Darrian Fuqua smiles with his new best friend Reese at Big Springs Park. Fuqua received Reese through Canine Assistants.

"MDA offices are funded almost entirely by individual private contributions," she said.

Darrian has benefited this year from Canine Assistants. In January after a training camp he received his service dog, Reese. Reese is a 2-year-old black Lab that can help Darrian open and close doors, turn on and off lights and retrieve things for him. More than that, Fuqua said Reese is a true companion to her son. "Reese has truly made an impact on Darrian's outlook on life," Fuqua said. "She's his best friend."

Federal workers can learn more about charitable organizations at the Agency Fairs scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 27 at the Sparkman Cafeteria (building 5302), Sept. 28 at the Post Exchange and Sept. 30 at Marshall Space Flight Center (building 4316).

CFC was established in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy to give federal, military and Postal Service employees the opportunity to give to charitable organizations through payroll deductions. Employees may also donate through a one-time contribution or through an online silent auction.

"The silent auction will work a lot like eBay, at the end of the two weeks the highest bidder will win," Donna Johnson, Local Federal Coordinating Committee chairman, said. "Once the bidder wins, they may designate which organization gets their donation."

The silent auction will run Oct. 25 through Nov. 5. Items that can be bid

on include dinner for six with Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and his wife, Becky, at their home; handmade St. Jude Hospital quilt; autographed John Stallworth football; tickets to Graceland; two nights stay and four complimentary meals at the Gold Strike Casino in Tunica, Miss.

The CFC kickoff celebration is set for 10 a.m. Sept. 29 at the Missile and Space Intelligence Center Auditorium (building 4544). John Reitzell, director of the modeling and simulation center of excellence at Computer Sciences Corporation, is the guest speaker. Music will be provided by the Grissom High School Jazz Band and the MSIC Quartet.

"Our theme again for this year's campaign is 'You Are Not Alone' and that is the message we want to send out to the community at large," Johnson said. "The same help you are providing someone may be the same help you need one day."

The goal for this year's campaign is \$1.7 million. Employees can designate up to five agencies to donate to and can choose from more than 1,300 international/national agencies and over 200 local agencies.

"The contributions made to MDA and the Canine Assistants have truly have made a difference in my son's life, as well as other individuals faced with similar challenges in the Tennessee Valley," Fuqua said. "I encourage all to continue to reach out and make a difference in the life of someone, because it's the small things in life that matter most."

Vaccine provides common defense against flu season

By Maj. **ANGELIQUE LIKELY**
Fox Army Health Center

The single best way to prevent the flu is to get vaccinated each fall. Fox Army Health Center Preventive Medicine Department is gearing up for the annual influenza campaign to help protect the Redstone Arsenal community from the dreaded flu bug.

The annual Influenza Vaccination Program starts mid-October and will provide vaccination against the flu for active duty military personnel, military retirees, dependents, federal civilian employees, and contract direct health care providers. Influenza vaccination is mandatory for all active duty military personnel and reservists who are on active duty for 30 days or more from Oct. 1 through next March 31.

The Office of the Surgeon General has released the policy for the 2004-05 influenza season. The major recommendations and changes this year include the following:

- All women who will be pregnant at any time during the influenza season should be vaccinated.
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that healthy children age 6-23 months be vac-

inated. (Immunization clinic will cover everyone 12 years and under.)

- Inactivated vaccine is preferred over live attenuated influenza vaccine; therefore, Fox didn't order any live vaccine.

Other good health habits to keep you healthy during the cold and flu season are:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- If possible, stay home from work, school and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
- Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.

A schedule for immunization dates will follow after confirmation of vaccine delivery date. Feel free to call Fox Preventive Medicine with any questions at 955-8888, ext. 1026.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Just the facts

Dan Ahern, director of morale welfare and recreation, gives an update on Oktoberfest and other MWR activities at the Family and Community Team Session or FACTS meeting Thursday in the Diane Campbell Recreation Center. The Redstone community leaders meet every two months, according to Larry Leggett, the quality of life program manager at Army Community Service.

First Army stands up Crisis Action Team for hurricane response

Soldiers respond to Ivan's wrath

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

FORT GILLEM, Ga. — First U.S. Army activated its 24-hour Crisis Action Team last week to help provide support to areas hard hit by Hurricane Ivan.

A small team of Soldiers was also sent to coordinate possible DoD support at emergency operations centers in Alabama, Georgia and Florida. In fact, the Florida team was in place since Hurricane Charley hit the state in mid-August.

For Hurricane Ivan, logistical staging areas, or LSAs, were identified to store donated supplies to provide humanitarian assistance to areas without drinking water or electricity.

More than 7,000 National Guard Soldiers were brought on duty in Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi to deal with the aftermath of the hurricane. States have reciprocal agreements to help each other with National Guard troops when disasters hit, explained a First Army spokesman.

During natural disasters, First Army's mission is to help Northern Command coordinate DoD support to civil authorities as requested by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

"FEMA and state and local officials are clearly in the forefront, and we support them by providing our unique assets," said Lt. Col. Ronald J. Rose Jr., First U.S. Army chief of operations.

Operating under the Federal

Response Plan, officials said a small military team of specially trained experts always work to quickly meet demands surfacing in the wake of a disaster.

First Army has 23 pre-designated colonels stationed throughout the eastern United States who are trained in disaster relief coordination and who are ready to assume the duties of a Defense coordinating officer.

After Hurricane Charley hit Florida Aug. 13, First Army coordinated military airlift, medical assistance and assessment overflights.

Col. Damon Penn — with his cell of Soldiers and emergency preparedness liaison officers from the Army, Navy and Air Force — was part of the FEMA team seeking the best answers to aid the state's recovery in areas stricken by Hurricane Charley.

Florida National Guard Soldiers were working throughout the devastated areas providing relief services to the stricken population.



Arnews photo

CHARTING PATH— Members of the Florida National Guard monitor progress of hurricane from their emergency operations center earlier this month.

Delta wins early rematch against defending champ 59th

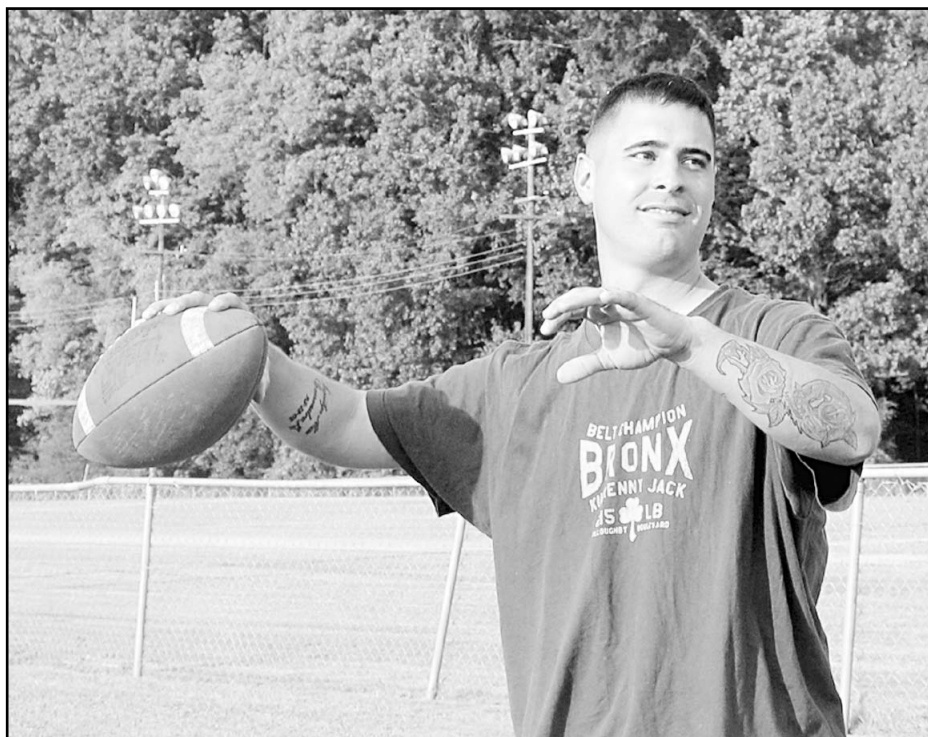


Photo by Skip Vaughn

GETTING READY— Marines quarterback Chris McNally warms up for the Sept. 13 preseason opener against MEDDAC but the medics won 14-6.

Devastating Dragons get preseason shutout

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Opening night of the preseason flag football tournament brought a rematch of last year's championship game.

HHC 59th, the defending champion, played runner-up Delta Company; and this time it was a different result.

Delta blanked the 59th 14-0 on Sept. 13 at the football field off Patton Road.

"I think the team played pretty well in that it was the first game of the preseason," Delta coach/wide receiver Christopher Frazier said. "We know that we have areas that we need to work on to become a better team. But anytime you come down and the defense doesn't give up any points, you have to say that's a success."

"We have a young team," 59th quarterback/wide receiver Ronald Steele said. "We lost a lot of players from last year."

Delta quarterback Johnie Walker threw touchdown passes to Frazier and center Stanley Lewis in the first half for the Dev-

astating Dragons.

He connected with Frazier on a 20-yarder five minutes into the game for a 6-0 lead. Lewis caught a 25-yarder with three minutes left in the half; and running back Keith Broughton ran for the two-point conversion.

Delta cornerback Anthony Hunter made a key interception that stopped a 59th drive midway through the second half. He picked off the pass at Delta's goal line. The 59th was driving again in the final two minutes when the Devastating Dragons stopped the threat on downs at their 15.

Frazier caught three passes for 40 yards and a touchdown. Broughton rushed for 60 yards on eight carries. Delta's defensive standouts included Hunter, defensive linemen Ronald Myers and Timothy Fughet, cornerback Stacey Cooley and safety Jonathan Jumper.

In other preseason games last week, MEDDAC def. Marines 14-6 and Charlie won by forfeit over Bravo on Sept. 13; MEDDAC def. Headquarters & Alpha 16-6, Charlie def. Delta 44-40 and HHC 59th won by forfeit over Bravo on Sept. 14; Headquarters & Alpha def. HHC 59th 6-0 and Delta def. Marines 16-14 on Sept. 15.



Photo by Kristi Foster

Riding in style

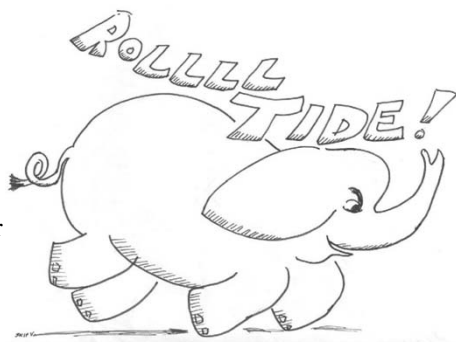
Avid golfers and friends, from left, Beverly Robbins, Joy McGuire, Louise Applegate and Dixie McGraw enjoy the Ladies Golf Association day Sept. 15 at Redstone Golf Course. The golf course has purchased 12 new golf carts for \$44,963. Also 4,800 feet of cart paths were added to the Hillside Pines course for \$11,316. For more information on the golf course and Morale Welfare and Recreation activities, visit www.redstonemwr.com.

Alabama should live high on hog

*Tide favored
over Arkansas*

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Here are Skip's Picks (75-34 so far) for
this week in college football:



Alabama at Arkansas — **Alabama**
The Citadel at Auburn — **Auburn**
Alabama A&M at Ark.-Pine Bluff — **A&M**
Kentucky at Florida — **Florida**
Mississippi State at LSU — **LSU**
Ole Miss at Wyoming — **Ole Miss**
Louisiana Tech at Tennessee — **Tenn.**
Vanderbilt at Navy — **Vanderbilt**
Air Force at Utah — **Utah**
Wash. State at Arizona — **Arizona**
Clemson at Florida State — **FSU**
Maryland at Duke — **Maryland**
Miami at Houston — **Miami**
Purdue at Illinois — **Purdue**
Iowa at Michigan — **Michigan**
Memphis at UAB — **UAB**

Washington at Notre Dame — **ND**
Furman at Pittsburgh — **Pitt**
Southern Cal at Stanford — **USC**
Southern Miss at Tulane — **SM**
Syracuse at Virginia — **Virginia**
Rice at Texas — **Texas**
Oregon State at Arizona State — **ASU**
Army at Connecticut — **Connecticut**
BYU at Boise State — **Boise State**
Boston College at Wake Forest — **BC**
Penn State at Wisconsin — **Wisconsin**
Northwestern at Minnesota — **Minn.**
N.C. State at Virginia Tech — **Va. Tech**

Michigan State at Indiana — **Mich. State**
Louisville at North Carolina — **Louisville**
Troy at South Carolina — **South Carolina**
Cincinnati at East Carolina — **Cincinnati**
Texas Tech at Kansas — **Texas Tech**

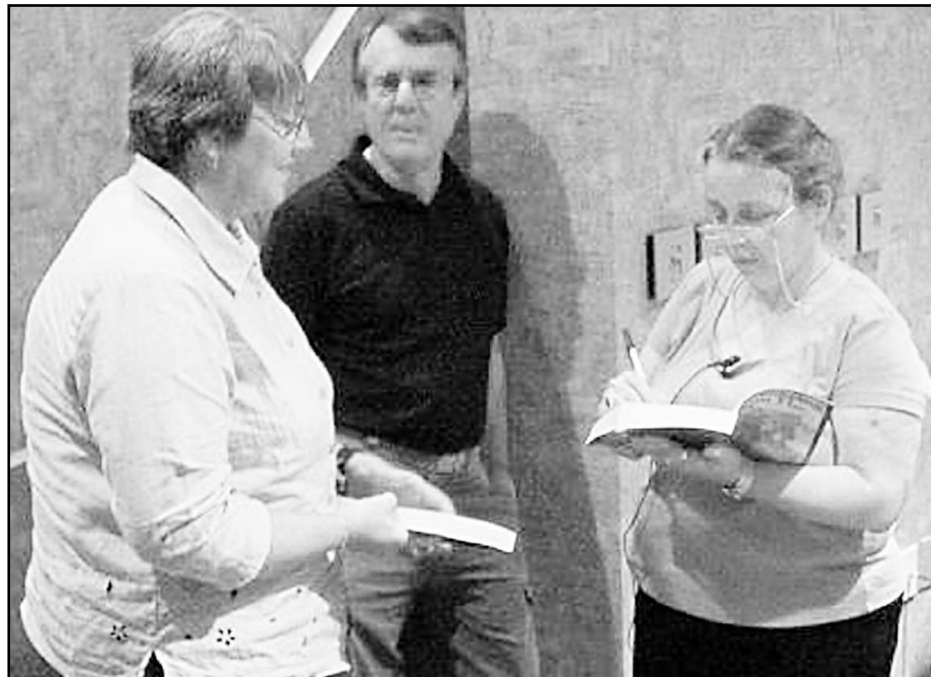


Photo by Kristi Foster

Veteran support

Patience Mason, right, author and spouse of Vietnam veteran Bill Mason, center, signs a copy of her book for Ruth Towers, seminar attendee and military spouse, left. Mason spoke to a group of professionals and family members during a seminar titled "Are You Prepared to Help the Returning Veteran?" More than 120 family members and professionals attended the two-part seminar Sept. 13 which addressed deployment, combat and reunion issues. The seminar was sponsored by Fox Army Behavioral Medicine, Association of the United States Army, and Bradford Health Services. Mason's book, titled "Recovering from the War: a Guide for All Veterans, Family Members, Friends and Therapists," is available online at www.patiencepress.com.

Sports & Recreation

Bass tournament

The Army Aviation Association of America, Tennessee Valley Chapter will hold its 2004 Fall Bass Tournament on Oct. 2 at 6:30 a.m., launching from the Easter-Posey Recreational Area. Pre-registration is required. For more information call Bob Vlasics 881-4144, Tom Geoffroy 895-4162 or Tony Giannelli 313-6054.

Big Spring Jam 5K

The City of Huntsville Recreation and Landscape Management Department will present 5K and Fun Runs to celebrate the 12th anniversary of the Big Spring Jam music festival. The runs and festival will be held in and around Big Spring International Park in downtown Huntsville. The festival is scheduled Sept. 24-26 and will feature more than 100 diverse musical acts. The 5K (3.1 mile) run begins at 8 a.m. Saturday and is a competitive event encouraging runners, joggers and walkers to commemorate the music festival. A Fun Run targeted to families begins immediately following the 5K. The first 500 pre-registered 5K runners receive a one-day pass to the Jam. For more information, call Lou Hovatter (256) 427-5226 or e-mail lou.hovatter@hsvcity.com.

Cycle and walk benefit

The Corps of Engineers will hold its second annual CFC Cycle and Walk for a

Cause at 8 a.m. Oct. 16 at Kent Johnston Park on Mountain Gap Road near Bailey Cove, adjacent to Publix. Ride 10, 20, 40 or 60 miles or walk for as many miles as you wish. The entire family can ride on the Aldrich Creek Greenway. Voluntary contributions to the Combined Federal Campaign are appreciated. Suggested donations are \$15 per participating bicyclist or \$20 per family. For more information, call Yazmine Gerousis 895-1830 or Todd Watts 895-1868.

Hunting and fishing day

National Hunting and Fishing Day is coming to Redstone Arsenal on Saturday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Outdoor Recreation will host Redstone Arsenal's "first annual" National Hunting and Fishing Day at its facility, building 5132 on Sportsman Lane (across for the Sparkman Center). Booths and displays from sponsors Madison R.V., S&L Marine, Hereford Taxidermy, Dick's Sporting Goods and Duck's Unlimited will be on hand. There will be games for the kids, a dunking booth, turkey shoot, archery demos, a snake show, boat show and a silent auction for Ducks Unlimited wildlife prints. The National Rifle Association will present the "Great American Hunting Tour," a traveling museum that displays hunting world records. "Serving hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, chips and Pepsi for lunch," a prepared release said. "Admission is free, so come on out and join us." For more information, call 876-4868 or visit www.redstonemwr.com.

Hunter safety

The annual Redstone Hunter Safety Briefing will be given at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711, at 4:30 p.m. Sept. 23, Oct. 7 and 21, as well as Nov. 4 and 18. You need only attend one of the briefings. This is an annual requirement for those who wish to hunt on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 876-4868.

Cross-country cycling tour

The 2004 Five Points of Life Ride kicked off in Seattle on Aug. 25, as a team of 13 amateur bicyclists began a 4,000 mile cross-country ride to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Raising national awareness for various lifesaving donations, the cyclists will stop in Huntsville on Oct. 4 at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center for a city welcome and blood drive. Sponsored by LifeSouth Community Blood Centers, the biannual Five Points of Life Ride consists of a small team of cyclists selected through a national application process. Each member has a compelling personal story about one or more of the Five Points of Life: whole blood, apheresis, bone marrow, cord blood and organ and tissue donation. As the team will arrive in Huntsville Oct. 4, LifeSouth is calling for interested bicyclists to join the team at the Alabama state line as they ride to the blood drive at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Approximately 20 miles, the local ride will have a police escort into Huntsville. Transportation to the starting point will be provided by Huntsville Hospital. All cyclists will receive a training pack and a one-month membership to the Huntsville Hospital Wellness Centers. For more information or to register, call 265-8317.



Conferences & Meetings

Reliability workshop

The SAE G-11 Reliability, Maintainability, Supportability, and Logistics Division and Probabilistic Methods Committee will meet Oct. 4-6 at Huntsville Hilton. The meeting will be hosted by both the Army and NASA. For more information, call Charles Birdsong of the Research Development and Engineering Center 876-5119.

Men singers

The Rocket City Chorus, a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Aldersgate Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 12901 Bailey Cove Road. For more information, call John Gonzalez 842-2992 (work) or 852-2408 (home).

Air Force association

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Air Force Association invites all former and any present Air Force members to the Firehouse Pub for an informal gathering on the last Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. For more information, call Terry Roop (256) 230-0396 after 6 p.m.

Mentoring workshops

Maj. Gen Jim Pillsbury, commander of Aviation and Missile Command, on June 17 approved the implementation of the AMCOM People Empowering People Mentoring Program. AMCOM Human

Resources Directorate continues to sponsor mentoring training workshops. Both paired mentor and mentee are required to attend the same workshop. This workshop is required for all interns, co-ops and AMC Fellows as well as participants of the People Empowering People voluntary mentoring program. There are seats available in the Sept. 27 mentoring workshop. Registration is through the Training Information Program. For more information, call Cheryl Wise of Human Resources Directorate 876-6062.

Airborne association

The Vulcan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association meets on the third Saturday of each month; and the next meeting is this Saturday. Membership in the association is open to anyone who is airborne qualified, as well as anyone who has served in a unit assigned or attached to the 82nd Airborne Division. For more information, call Barry Simpson 533-3000 or Dennis Camp 883-7488.

Officers group

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. The chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is 11 a.m. Sept. 29, at the Officers and Civilians Club. Dan Satterfield, local television personality from WHNT-TV 19, is the scheduled speaker. All active, retired and former officers; their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Blacks in government

Huntsville Madison County Chapter of Blacks in Government will present its annual Professional Development Seminar on Oct. 14 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Research Park. Registration fee is \$ 125. Featured speakers include motivational speaker Jewel Diamond Taylor of Los Angeles, Pastor O. Wendell Davis of Huntsville and former Lithonia, Ga., mayor Marcia Glenn. For more information, call C. Kelly Brinson 876-1888. The TIP registration code is F42PDS.

Parents committee

The Parents Advisory Council will meet Sept. 28 at 11 a.m. in the Redstone Room, Challenger Activity Center, building 1500; phone 876-7952. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend the PAC meetings. Parent participation points (2.5 points) are awarded for attendance — 5 points equal a 10 percent discount on child-care fees. "Please join us to learn what is happening at the Redstone Arsenal child and youth facilities and to provide your opinions, ideas and concerns," a prepared release said.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B/74B

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information systems operators and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For specialty 74C or 74F, they are now authorized to convert to 75B as well. For an interview, call Charles Vartan 876-0604 (work) or 883-8891 (home).

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. To bid on this property, go to www.gsaauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Redstone motorcycle training

Experienced Riders Motorcycle Training is conducted at the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership off I-565 and Greenbrier Road. Soldiers, DoD civilians and military retirees are funded by the government. Contractors pay \$75 per person. For registration information, call Keith Coates 876-3383 or John Zuber 876-3114 of the Garrison Safety Office.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, in building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesdays 9-5 and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-1. Military personnel and their families should contact the manager for an appointment. The shop has begun accepting fall and winter clothing. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. The shop accepts handmade craft items for consignment. It can recycle all your inkjet, fax, printer, copier and laser jet cartridges. Volunteers are sought for the afternoons. For more information, call 881-6992.

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel's Fall Bible Studies will meet at the Bicentennial Chapel every Thursday. Morning studies are 9:30 a.m.; lunchtime study is 11:30 to 12:15; and the evening study starts at 6:30 p.m. Call Faith 890-0685 or

Tonie 489-5646 for more information.

Computer classes

Army Community Service offers free computer classes to help boost your career opportunities. You will learn the basic and advanced features that will help maximize your productivity, help you manage documents, organize your communications, build spreadsheets, databases and professional looking presentations. Classes are available for Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access and Publisher. At the conclusion of each class, you will receive a certificate of completion. You may take the classes during ACS regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Debra Jefferson 876-5397.

Value engineering award

The Robert B. Tarquine Value Engineering Achievement Award is presented annually to acknowledge individuals' notable contributions to the RDECOM Value Engineering Program. Nominations are now being accepted for a deserving individual who is assigned to AMCOM and has made significant contributions to the AMCOM VE Program. Criteria for nominations can be obtained from the RDECOM VE Office by sending your request to sharon.alidjaili@rdec.redstone.army.mil. The honoree is selected by a voting panel comprised of the RDECOM Value Engineering Office. Questions concerning the award may be directed to Juanita Gooden 842-9402. Nominations must be submitted by Oct. 6. This year's award will be presented at the FY 2005 VE Kickoff and Awards Ceremony.

Officer course

Command and General Staff College is teaching the final year of CGSC classes. Phase III CGSC classes will start in October; and classes will be held on Monday nights or weekends from October through April. Both the weekend and weeknight option will be offered this year. This is the final year phase III CGSC will be taught at Redstone. Next year will mark the beginning of the Intermediate Level Education, which replaces CGSC. For students who have completed phase II, this is the last chance to finish CGSC in a classroom environment. After this year, correspondence will be the only option. The course is open to promotable captains, majors and lieutenant colonels. Even those who have enrolled in the correspondence course may be eligible to switch to classroom instruction. Interested officers should call Lt. Col. Komp 876-8825, Lt. Col. Goodman 544-6884 or Lt. Col. Anderson 428-1637.

Group life insurance

For the first time in five years, the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program is having an open season through Sept. 30. This open season gives employees in FEGLI eligible positions the opportunity to enroll in the program (if they don't have Basic now) or change or increase their current FEGLI coverage. The director of the Office of Personnel Management, Kay Coles James, stresses the importance of this open season: "Like many things, life insurance needs change over time. That is why I want to make

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sure you have every opportunity to elect FEGLI coverage without having a physical examination or answering any medical questions." For more information, visit www.fegli2004.opm.gov. "Army employees who wish to make an open season election must do so by contacting the Army Benefits Center-Civilian," a prepared release said. "Although the FE 2004 open season election form was included in the information package, Army employees should not use this form. While we regret any confusion that this has caused, we are pleased to offer the convenience and accuracy of the ABC-C's automated systems to Army employees. To contact the ABC-C, visit <https://www.abc.army.mil> or call 1-877-276-9287 toll-free. Both the ABC-C's web and phone systems provide personalized information concerning your benefits, including the options carried and the amount of life insurance coverage. When making an election, please remember to include the options that you already carry if you wish to continue them."

Calhoun College courses

Calhoun Community College's registration for the second eight-week term continues through Oct. 13. Term dates are Oct. 18 through Dec. 16. Check Calhoun's web site, www.calhoun.edu, for complete details and a list of courses or call 876-7431.

Big Spring Jam tickets

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring discounted weekend passes for the Big Spring Jam XII, Sept. 24-26 in downtown Huntsville. Complete Jam details are at www.bigspringjam.org. The CWFC discounted price for a weekend pass is \$35, compared to the regular gate price \$40. Payment is by check only, payable to BSJ. The council is not selling one-day tickets for this event. Contact the following CWFC members to purchase your weekend passes: building 5300, Cheryl Anderson 313-5825; building 5302, Jan Pickard 876-2569; building 5303, Charles Urban 955-7662; building 5304, Jerrel McCollum 313-1589; building 5307, Randy Bigler 842-6551; building 5308, Pat Cross 955-9640; building 5400, Bob Olson 876-4993 or Tom Hart 876-5445; and DAU, Old Madison Pike, Don Clark 722-1035. The deadline for CWFC advance discount weekend pass purchases is close of business today.

Organizational day

RDEC organizational day is Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Col. Carroll Hudson Recreation Area. Softball, volleyball, horseshoes, bingo, cake walk, dunking booth, etc., are planned. Lunch tickets can be purchased from each directorate; adults are \$7 (pork/chicken barbecue) and \$3 for children 12 and under (hot dog). For more information, call Steve Smith 876-8331.

CFC kickoff

The 2004 Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign kickoff celebration will be held Sept. 29 at 10 a.m. at the Missile and Space Intelligence Center Auditorium, building 4544. John Reitzell will be the keynote speaker; and the Grissom High School Jazz Band and the MSIC Quartet will provide musical entertainment. Bus transportation will be available

to pick up employees at 9:30 at buildings 5300, 5400 and 4488 to take them to the celebration.

Hispanic heritage contests

Hispanic Heritage Month is Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. Redstone will have an essay contest on this year's theme, "Hispanic Americans: Making a Difference in Our Communities and Our Nation." Fax or mail essays – 12 point font size, double spaced, two pages or less – by Sept. 27 to either Sgt. 1st Class Vasquez at AMCOM, Attn: AMSAM-EO, fax 876-8947, phone 876-8648; or Sgt. 1st Class Weber/Sgt. 1st Class Williams at OMEMS, Attn: ASTK-AE, fax 842-6853, phone 876-9224. Plaques will be awarded for the top three essays. Displays for a unit/department static display contest should be in place today with judging Sept. 27. Trophies will go to the top three displays.

Hispanic month observance

Hispanic Heritage Month Observance 2004, sponsored by Team Redstone Combined Hispanic Heritage Month Committee, is Oct. 5 at 1 p.m. at Richard C. Shelby Auditorium, building 4544. Armando Rodriguez, chief of diversity management and equal opportunity, Defense Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C., is to speak on the national theme, "Hispanic Americans: Making a Difference in Our Communities and Our Nation." Essay theme awards, mariachis musical presentations and Hispanic food sampling round off the afternoon. All are invited. If special accommodations are required, call Peter Espinosa 313-7285.

Older drivers' course

The AMCOM Safety Office will sponsor the American Association of Retired Persons Over 50 Safe Drivers Program on Oct. 6-7. The program is designed for drivers over the age of 50. It addresses the specific risks as driver's skills change over time. The course utilizes defensive driving techniques. However, it addresses age-related physical changes in vision, hearing and reaction time. Typically older drivers do not commit traffic violations such as speeding, drunk driving or reckless driving to any significant degree. Older drivers do have problems when involved in driving situations requiring quick response, full vision and interaction with other drivers. Typical violations include failure to yield right-of-way, improper turning, incorrect lane changing, passing, and entering and leaving expressways. This course teaches attendees how to adjust their driving to these age related changes. The Over 50 Safe Drivers Program has proven results in reducing accident claims by 10 percent. Successful completion of the course may entitle the attendee to an insurance savings; this issue will be between the attendee and their individual insurance company. The course is limited to 30 people. The course will be given in two four-hour classes on Oct. 6 and 7 from noon– 4 p.m. in building 5304, room 4333. The cost of the course is \$10. This cost will be covered for AMCOM government civilian and military employees. The commanding general has approved duty time to AMCOM employees to attend this training. To sign up or for more information,

call Mike Davis 842-8642 at the AMCOM Safety Office.

Modeling/simulation council

The Alabama Modeling and Simulation Council invites you to its second annual public transaction, the "AMSC Fall '04 Event" on Oct. 19 at the Huntsville Marriott. The focus of the event is to review AMSC organization and participation and disclose AMSC activity, products and value during 2004. For more information call Sharon Hardy 922-9952, ext. 250, or Charlotte Sallas 922-0802.

Parents' night out

Child and Youth Services is offering the Redstone community a "Parents Night Out" every third Saturday of the month. Reservations for this after-hours care can be made by calling the Child Development Center 876-7952. Military personnel may make their reservation starting at the beginning of each month. All others in the Redstone community (including contractors) must make their reservations starting the Monday prior to the third Saturday. Fees for Soldiers E-4 and below is \$10 per child; all others will pay \$15 per child. A 10 percent multiple child reduction will also be given. Evening snack is provided. For more information, call 876-7952.

A&M homecoming

Shoshana Johnson, a former Soldier who was wounded and captured during Operation Iraqi Freedom, is scheduled speaker for the Alabama A&M University homecoming convocation at noon Oct. 5 on the A&M campus in the Clyde Foster Multipurpose Room at the new School of Business Building. Admission is free. For more information, call Elizabeth Sloan-Ragland 372-5793 or Richard Ruffin 372-5776.

Newcomers' orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation, Oct. 5 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338 on Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths and a tour of Redstone Arsenal. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Newcomers also receive a 10 percent discount on any framing or matting done at the June Hughes Arts and Crafts Center, building 3615 on Gray Road. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned to Redstone; and spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are required for children using the child care services. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

Best yards

Yard of the Month winners for September include: Unit winner – Marines, building 3412. Area 1, Columbia Centre – Sgt. and Mrs. Arthur Mascarenhas, 531-C Magnolia Circle. Area 2, Challenger Heights – SFC and Mrs. Charles Marmann, 1037 Hof Circle. Area 3, Saturn Pointe – Maj. and Mrs. Russell Dunford, 46 Ripley Drive. Area 4A, New Endeavor Village – Sgt. 1st Class and Mrs. Daniel Hope, 620 Wesson Circle. Area 4B, Endeavor Village

– Staff Sgt. and Mrs. Lonnie Young, 663 Dyer Circle. Area 5, Freedom Landing – Maj. and Mrs. Bryan Phillips, 426 Hughes Drive. Area 6, Voyager Village – Staff Sgt. and Mrs. Nathan Chapman, 400 Hughes Drive. Area 10A, Apollo Landing – 1st Sgt. and Mrs. Jesse Walker, 470-B Tripp Drive. Area 10B, Pathfinder Pointe – Maj. and Mrs. Brian Tachias, 486 Cooke Drive. "To all: Thanks for all your help and support in this program," a prepared release said. "See y'all next May!"

Veterinary clinic

The Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Treatment Facility will conduct evening clinics Thursday from 4-7 p.m. Authorized patrons will be seen on a walk in basis for routine vaccinations. Heartworm, feline leukemia tests and microchip identification will also be available for pets. For more information call the VTF 876-2441.

Marine Corps ball

The 229th Marine Corps Birthday Ball Celebration is Nov. 5 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Happy hour begins at 6 p.m. and the ceremony at 7. For more information, call Master Sgt. Michael Wiggins (256) 468-6278.

Military medical care

Many Madison County military families will no longer be able to use Huntsville Hospital as their first choice for medical care, according to a Garrison release. Humana Tri-Care is the insurance carrier for the military. The company told all its policy holders, beginning Sept. 1, Huntsville Hospital would not be on their preferred care provider list, which basically means that if military or their families were to seek treatment at Huntsville Hospital, their services may not be paid for, or they'd have to pay a much higher deductible. Crestwood Medical Center now holds the contract with Humana Tri-Care to be the preferred hospital provider for Madison County.

Technical society

The Huntsville Association of Technical Societies Science and Technology Training and Education Committee presented \$15,244.75 in seed grants to 16 North Alabama schools during an awards ceremony Sept. 20 at Shelby King Hall on the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus. The awards were made possible by support from Northrop Grumman, STED-TRAIN's community corporate sponsor, as well as the Space and Missile Defense Working Group of the National Defense Industrial Association Tennessee Valley Chapter, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Huntsville Section, Jacobs Sverdrup, SAIC, Dynetics, Englehard Corporation and The Huntsville Times. For more information on HATS or STEDTRAIN seed grants, call Kris McBride 971-6725.

Parking permits

The existing Official Vehicle Parking Permits will expire Oct. 31; and the new permits are ready for issue. To obtain Official Vehicle Parking Permits, send a letter of request to Bobby Noles, AMSAM-RA-DPW, or e-mail bobby.noles@redstone.army.mil. In your message, state the number of permits required and point

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of contact and telephone number of the person that will be responsible for maintaining control of the permits.

Flying open house

The Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity will have its annual Open House on Oct. 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free. There will be Mini Flying Lessons for \$30 for adults and \$25 for children 12 and under. Certified flight instructors will be on hand plus aviation videos, simulators, and free hamburgers/hot dogs and refreshments. This event is open to the entire Redstone community including active duty, retired, and Guard/Reserve military, DoD, Redstone/NASA contractors and dependents. First month's dues will be waived for joining the Flying Activity at the open house. The Flying Activity is off Research Park Boulevard South after entering Gate 9; follow south to Hale Road and turn right, then follow Hale back to the Flying Activity. For more information, call 881-3980 or 880-9495.

Dinner theater

The Officers and Civilians Club will host a dinner theater and buffet, "When I Come Home," from 6-9:15 p.m. Oct. 2. This event is open to the entire Redstone community, including contractors. The play is based on the true-life story of Lucinda Jane Boone Pless, a Confederate heroine. Civil War historians credit Pless with saving the city of Dadeville, Ala., from destruction at the hands of a Yankee general and his raiders. Buffet dinner is 6-7 p.m., dinner theater 7:15-9:15 and meet-the-cast reception 9:15-10. Price for ROCC members is \$18.95 per person, and \$21.95 per person for non-members. Call 830-2582 for tickets or more information.

Youth programs

SKIESUnlimited is a program for children of military and Department of Defense personnel, including contractors. The program includes the following: Tennis lessons — Starting in October, lessons for one month, Monday through Thursday and Saturdays for ages 5-10, as well as ages 11-18; cost varies for weekly or bi-weekly lessons. Fall Break Tennis Camp will also be held Oct. 4-8 and Oct. 11-15. All lessons held at the CYS tennis courts on Goss Road. Call for prices and times. Kindermusik — Twelve-week session for music instruction; cost \$150 per child. Dancing and Drumming — 15-week session; \$35 per month, held at SABA Dance School. Kindernastics — Oct. 11 through Nov. 19; call for prices and times. Cheer-nastics — Oct. 11 through Nov. 19; call for prices and times. Tumbling — Oct. 11 through Nov. 19; call for prices and times. "Mommy and Me" Classes — Oct. 11 through Nov. 19; call for prices and times. Taekwondo — Classes held Oct. 2-30 and cost \$40 per child; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-7 p.m. and Saturdays 8:30-9:30 a.m. at the Youth Center, building

3148. Register your children at Child and Youth Services Central Enrollment at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 313-3701.

Homeschool activities

Child and Youth Services will host Homeschool Activities at the Youth Center from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Sept. 23 and 30, Oct. 21 and 28, Nov. 4 and 18, Dec. 2, 9 and 16. Homeschool activities include technology lab instruction, physical education and other enrichment classes. The program is open to kindergarten through 12th grade homeschool students of active duty, retired military, DoD, contractor or NASA employees. Cost is \$18 and is current for one year from the date of registration. For more information, call Pam Berry 876-7801.

PX news

The Post Exchange will operate with the following holiday hours on Columbus Day, Oct. 11: Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Concessions, closed; GNC, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Mall Barber Shop, closed; Beauty Shop, closed; Cellular Service, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Furniture Store, closed; One-Stop Goss Road, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Service Station, closed; Burger King, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Military Clothing, closed; Barber Shop, building 3479, closed. Food court — Anthony's, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Cinnabon, closed; Baskin Robins, closed; Robin Hood, closed; and Churchs, closed.

Astronomical society

The Von Braun Astronomical Society will present a program on "Exploring the Universe Through NASA Missions" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the VBAS Planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. The speaker is Mitzi Adams, NASA astronomer and VBAS planetarium director. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. Weather permitting, there will be a star party following the show. For more information, call Jack Lundy 536-7160.

Jobs available

Boeing is recruiting for about 300 positions in Huntsville and more than 6,000 openings company-wide. Today is the deadline for Huntsville-area job seekers to submit their applications online at www.boeing.com/careers so they can be considered for interviews at the Oct. 6 Boeing Interview Event in Huntsville. For more information, call Barbara Murphy (425) 865-3236 or Monty Vest (256) 461-2803.

NCO call

All NCOs — including active duty and retired, National Guard, Reserves and Marines — are invited to join the post command sergeant major at NCO Call from 4-6 p.m. Friday at the Firehouse Pub.

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